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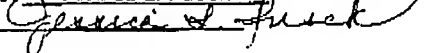
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Alexandria, VA
Fax: (571) 273-8300****REF: Serial No.: 10/033148
Attorney Docket No.: 10008248-1****Attached for filing:**

- 1) Transmittal of Reply Brief (1 pg)
- 2) Reply Brief (6 pgs)

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PATENT APPLICATIONATTORNEY DOCKET NO. 10008248 -1**IN THE
UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Inventor(s): Shell Simpson et al

Confirmation No.: 7864

Application No.: 10/033148

Examiner: Yixing Qin

Filing Date: Oct 23, 2001

Group Art Unit: 2625

Title: System And Method Of Identifying A Printer Output Tray

Mail Stop Appeal Brief - Patents
Commissioner For Patents
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TRANSMITTAL OF REPLY BRIEFTransmitted herewith is the Reply Brief with respect to the Examiner's Answer mailed on May 17, 2007.

This Reply Brief is being filed pursuant to 37 CFR 1.193(b) within two months of the date of the Examiner's Answer.

(Note: Extensions of time are not allowed under 37 CFR 1.136(a))

(Note: Failure to file a Reply Brief will result in dismissal of the Appeal as to the claims made subject to an expressly stated new ground rejection.)

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Respectfully submitted,

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JUL 17 2007

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

First Named Applicant: Shell Simpson

Application No.: 10/033148 (CONF 7864)

Filed: October 23, 2001

Title: System And Method Of Identifying A Printer
Output TrayAttorney Docket No.: 10008248-1

Group Art Unit:
2625Examiner:
Yixing QinCommissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450REPLY BRIEF

This Reply Brief is being filed in response to the Examiner's Answer of May 17, 2007.

As to the first ground of rejection (GROUND 1)

Applicant has argued that claim 16 was improperly rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by Nozawa (6,781,709). More specifically, Appellants contend that claim 16 was improperly rejected because Nozawa does not disclose all the elements and limitations of claim 16.

Claim 16 depends from claim 11.

Claim 11 recites:

11. A server, comprising:
 - (a) means for receiving a request from a client;

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(b) means for responding to the request by transmitting a program of computer readable instructions to the client, the program for enabling the client to:

i) use a specific printer having a plurality of output trays to print a document;

and

ii) display an indicator that indicates the identity of an output tray from the plurality of output trays that receives the document;

wherein the server is the printer.

Claim 16 further recites (emphasis added):

16. The server of claim 11, wherein the indicator further indicates the present capacity of the output tray that is receiving the document to accept additional media.

With respect to claim 16, the Examiner's Answer states (emphasis added):

Nozawa, cites, in column 14, lines 31-56 discloses that "Output Paper Remains" is displayed. Lines 38-56 discloses sensors that are able to detect output papers remaining in the various bins. In the example, Nozawa shows this in Bin4, which indicates that the sensors are able to provide the user with the fact that there is an amount of output paper remaining, which is interpreted to be a present capacity of the amount of paper in the output bin.

In response to the Examiners statement quoted above, please consider the following comments:

The particular sections of Nozawa cited by the examiner [i.e., column 14, lines 31-56] describe a dialog box "P 3". The dialog box "P 3" can display "Output Paper Remains" near an output bin if *one or pages* (from a previously printed print job) is present in the bin.

Nozawa states at column 14, lines 31-56 (emphasis added):

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FIG. 10 shows the main part of the Properties dialog box displayed by a modified dialog box display process executed in the first modified example. In the illustrated example, "Output Paper Remains" representing that output paper is remaining (in Bin 4) is displayed in the attribute description area a 6 in the display field f 24 of Bin 4 in the paper output settings display box P 3.

In the first modified example, the printer 120 has paper output remaining sensors to detect the presence of any remaining paper output respectively in the ten bins of the multi-bin unit and one face-down tray. These sensors optically detect the presence of the output paper. The dialog box display routine executed by the CPU is modified as follows in this modified example. The processing of step S 160 in the modified dialog box display routine receives the results of detection of the paper output remaining sensors as part of the information regarding the current conditions of the printer. The output paper remaining state is then displayed based on the results of detection by the processing of steps S 170 through S 190.

This arrangement enables the user who may be at a place remote from the printer 110 to readily check whether any output paper remains in any of the ten bins of the multi-bin unit and one face-down tray through the operations of the computer at hand. This further enhances the efficiency of the printing operations.

It is respectfully asserted that, contrary to the Examiner's position, the dialog box "P 3" display of "Output Paper Remains" indicates if media is present in an output bin. "Output Paper Remains" does not indicate the capacity of an output bin to accept additional media.

For example, Nozawa shows, in Fig. 10, the dialog box "P 3" displaying "Output Paper Remains" next to bin 4. This only means that one or more pages of paper are present in Bin 4. Moreover, the dialog box "P 3" display of "Output Paper Remains" provides the user with no idea whether or not bin 4 has the capacity to accept additional media.

Accordingly, it is respectfully asserted that Nozawa's dialog box "P 3" display of "Output Paper Remains" does not teach the claim 16 indicator (which indicates the present capacity of the output tray that is receiving the document to accept additional media).

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Further, it goes without saying, that while the user is interacting with Nozawa's dialog box "P 3" to adjust the printer settings: the user's document has not yet been printed.

Thus, Nozawa's dialog box "P 3" can not provide any information about the present capacity of an output tray that is receiving the user's document to accept additional media.

Accordingly, for this additional reason, it is respectfully asserted that Nozawa's dialog box "P 3" does not disclose the claim 16 indicator (which indicates the present capacity of the output tray that is receiving the document to accept additional media).

Also with respect to claim 16, the Examiner's Answer further states:

Furthermore, indicating the "present capacity" of the output tray that is receiving the document to accept additional media "can be interpreted as the ability or inability of the output tray to perform a task, which in this case is to accept additional media. Fig. 12 and column 15, lines 28-44 show that bins 1 and 3 are unavailable, while all others ones are available. The capacity of these available bins is "yes, capable", while the unavailable bins are "no, not capable".

In response to the Examiners statement quoted above, please consider the following comments:

The particular Nozawa sections cited by the examiner [Fig. 12 and column 15, lines 28- 44 show that bins 1 and 3 are unavailable] describe a dialog box that indicates to the user that he/she cannot select output bin 1 and output bin 3. This is because output bin 1 and output bin 3 are allocated, respectively, to other users (i.e., the "General Manager" and the "Sub-section chief"). It is not because bin 1 and bin 3 do not have the capacity to receive additional media.

Moreover, the indication that an output bin cannot be selected (because it is assigned to other users) is not the same as indicating the capacity of an output bin (that is presently receiving a document) to receive additional media.

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Accordingly, it is respectfully asserted that, contrary to the Examiner's position, Nozawa's dialog box described at Fig. 12 column 15, lines 28-44 does not teach the claim 16 indicator (which indicates the present capacity of the output tray that is receiving the document to accept additional media).

Nozawa does not provide printer status information while the user's document is printing:

- ◊ It should also be noted that the dialog boxes described by Nozawa are used BEFORE the user actually prints his/her document.
- ◊ Moreover, nowhere does Nozawa disclose displaying printer status information while the user's document is printing.
- ◊ The claim 16 indicator indicates the present capacity of the output tray that is receiving the document to accept additional media.
- ◊ Thus, in contrast to Nozawa, the claim 16 indicator provides status information (i.e., output tray capacity) while the user's document is printing.
- ◊ Accordingly, it follows that Nozawa does not disclose the claim 16 indicator. And for this reason alone, the 102 rejection should be withdrawn.

As to the second ground of rejection (GROUND 2)

All of the above arguments apply and will therefore not be repeated.

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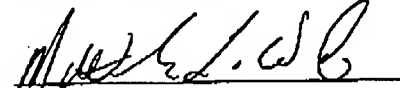
Conclusion

Applicant believes that the appealed claims are in condition for allowance, and requests that they so be allowed, for at least the reasons described above.

Respectfully submitted,

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